

Executive Summary

ES-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

This Consolidated Plan encompasses the period of September 1, 2015 to August 30, 2019 and replaces the report prepared for the period from September 1, 2010 to August 30, 2015. The process of preparing this Consolidated Plan included the following:

- A community survey document designed and distributed to gain the insight of low to moderate income residents, representatives of service providers, Town officials and others on housing and housing related issues in the Town of East Hartford;
- Statistical analysis based upon data from sources including the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey (ACS), the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) and others;
- In-person interviews with representatives of Town Departments, service providers and others impacted by this Consolidated Plan;
- Review of both internal and external reports, documents and plans that impact housing issues within and outside of the Town of East Hartford

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

The main objectives of the Town of East Hartford's Community Development Block Grant program mirror those of the national program: to ensure decent affordable housing, to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities and to create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses.

The specific objectives and outcomes identified in the Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment Overview include the following:

- Meet the housing and non-housing needs of the Town;
- Help ensure that the needs of low to moderate income residents are being met;
- Foster coordination across Town Department lines;
- Assess the need for improvement in local delivery systems;
- Ensure year-round communication between Town Government and private, non-profit organizations that serve East Hartford's low to moderate income residents.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The Town of East Hartford's annual Action Plan and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) have received HUD approval in each of the Program Years covered by the previous Consolidated Plan.

The Town evaluates its performance yearly in its CAPER. The most recent CAPER, submitted to HUD in November 2014, evaluated the 39th Program Year (September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2014) performance. In that year, the Town administered its CDBG program in compliance with federal regulations governing the program: 100% of expenditures were for activities that benefited low and moderate income persons; expenditures for public services (13.71%) were within the 15% cap permitted by the program; administrative expenses (13.56%) were below the 20% cap allowed by the program. The Town spent its CDBG dollars in a timely fashion. On July 3, 2014, its "Timeliness Test Date," the Town's draw ratio was 1.47. This was below HUD's minimum draw ration of 1.5.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The Town's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) was followed in gathering public input for the formation of the Consolidated Plan.

Two public hearings were held on the subject of the Consolidated Plan in which the public was invited to comment on a preliminary list of housing and non-housing community development priorities for the Town of East Hartford. To encourage public participation at these hearings, a legal notice announcing the public hearings was published in The Hartford Courant and posted on the Town's website. Press releases were distributed to The Hartford Courant, The Gazette, The Journal Inquirer, The Reminder News, East Hartford Community Television, Connecticut Radio Information Services (CRIS) and posted on the Town's website.

A Consolidated Plan survey document, designed to solicit views primarily from town residents and community organizations about services needs and gaps in town, was distributed. Hard-copy survey documents were placed in the Raymond Library, South End Senior Center, Social Services Office, Youth Services Office, Parks & Recreation Office, Grants Administration Office and the WIC office, which is visited by approximately 200 low income residents weekly. Surveys were also mailed to 68 community organizations and 27 faith-based groups that service low to moderate income neighborhoods in town and the housing, health and social service needs of the community. An electronic version of the survey was posted on the main page of the Town's website as well as the Grants Administration's page and was sent via email to all Town Department Heads and Town Council members.

In-person interviews were conducted with several Town officials and service providers to gain their insights on the needs and assets of the community.

5. Summary of public comments

TBD

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

7. Summary